

REMARKS

The Office Action dated June 13, 2008 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1, 3-5, 13, 15-18, 24, and 26-30 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 5, and 15-18 have been allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of these claims.

By this Response, claims 3, 13, 16, 17, 24, and 26-29 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. New claim 30 has been added. No new matter has been added. The present claims are respectfully submitted for consideration in view of the following remarks.

The Office Action objected to claim 3 as depending on a canceled claim. Claim 4 was similarly objected to for depending from claim 3. Claim 3 has been amended to depend from claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the objection is rendered moot.

The Office Action rejected claims 13, 24, and 26-29 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Office Action asserted that a "computer node is broadly readable upon computer software without any tangible embodiments." Claims 13, 24, and 26-29 have been amended such that they are now directed to an "apparatus." Applicants submit that an apparatus or device clearly constitutes statutory subject matter. Therefore, Applicants submit that this rejection has been rendered moot and respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Office Action did not include any prior art rejections. Furthermore, for at least the reasons outlined above, Applicants submit that the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed and overcome. As such, Applicants respectfully request that all of claims 1, 3-5, 13, 15-18, 24, and 26-30 be allowed and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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